



ST. WINEFRIDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

This term has been a wonderful term for our school community. The children are working extremely hard and they are striving for EXCELLENCE in all areas of school life and this is evident in their learning and their behaviour. Our mission statement permeates all that we do at St Winefride's and the children understand that at St Winefride's, we 'LEARN, LAUGH, LISTEN, LIVE AND LOVE' in the presence of Jesus.

Thank you to all staff, parents and carers, Governors, Father Francis and parishioners, and our wonderful members of our PTFA who work hard to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of our children.



The True Meaning of Christmas

It is so important, at this busy time of year, that we take time to pause and reflect upon what Christmas really means for us all. It has been heart warming that our children and staff have been able to share the true meaning of Christmas with family members and friends of St Winefride's. It has been lovely to welcome so many of you to our Reception performance of 'The First Christmas' and KS1's performance of 'Honky Tonky Donkey.' Many parents and family members, as well as Governors and Father Francis, have commented upon the joy and warmth that it has brought to our community at this time of year. The children have performed with great enthusiasm and confidence. We are in awe of the children — and how talented they are. I would like to thank all of the Reception and KS1 staff—Mr Shipton, Mrs Edwards, Mrs Jones, Mrs MacDonald, Mrs Dee, Mrs Moral Selby and Miss Holland for their dedication and commitment to these special performances. A huge 'thank you' to Miss Holland who directed the performance for children in Years 1 and 2.

Reception



Years 1 and 2



KS2 Carol Services

On the afternoon and evening of Monday 12th December, all children and staff in KS2 came together at St Winefride's church to share in a special carol service. The children brought the story of the first simple Christmas to family members, friends and parishioners. The children sang beautifully and read with great confidence. Our Year three children created a tableau of the Nativity. Father Francis commented upon how articulate the children were and how well they sang. Governors and parishioners have expressed the joy and warmth that it has brought to them this Christmas time. A huge thank you to the children for their engagement and enthusiasm living out our school mission statement to 'Learn, Laugh, Listen, Live and Love' in the presence of Jesus. A special thank you to Mrs Bannister for preparing and organising the service for us all and to all teaching and support staff for helping to prepare all children for such a thoughtful and peaceful service. Thank you to parents for supporting your child with their contributions to, and in attending, these special services.





Achievement Assemblies



Our achievement assemblies continue to recognise all of the hard work and effort the children put into their learning at school and the positive contributions that they make to school life. It is lovely to share with parents and carers the achievements of pupils in this way.

During the last week of term, there have been lots of awards given out at our 'end of term' achievement assemblies. Children received certificates for the amount of Dojos they have received this academic year so far; our Reception and KS1 children received a special award in recognition of all that they have achieved during the autumn term at St Winefride's. Many children throughout the school received an attendance award for 100% attendance. Lots of other awards were presented including the house trophy in KS2. This was awarded to St Andrew's house. Well done to all of the children. In each class, in recognition of everyone working so hard this term, all of the children's names were put into a box and a winner for each class was picked. The winners received a voucher to spend at 'Smyths' toy store. Well done to all of our wonderful children on achieving so much this academic year!

Advent Assemblies

Our Advent assemblies have been based upon our school mission statement 'Learn, Laugh, Listen, Live and Love' in the presence of Jesus. All teachers have prepared and led an Advent assembly during this season based around one of our 'L' words and the children have enjoyed this time of peace and prayer. They have enjoyed thinking about what the mission statement means to them as well as sharing and reflecting upon Scripture from the Bible. They have also enjoyed our St Winefride's traditions—the Advent Alphabet and our wonderful Christmas Advent Calendar. Today, our final Advent assembly was about 'LOVE' and the birth of Jesus. The children enjoyed the journey through our advent assemblies and all that they experienced. Thank you to Mrs Bannister for organising this prayerful time for children and staff.



The Robin's First Christmas

Our children and staff were fortunate to invite local author, Susanne Schroder into school to share with us her latest book 'The Robin's First Christmas.' The children listened to the story and were able to ask questions about the book such as what inspired Susanne to write her book; how long did it take her and was she the illustrator of her book. Susanne commented upon how well behaved and well mannered the children at St Winefride's are and how well they articulated their questions and answers. She said that school was very welcoming that she enjoyed being here—she enjoyed it so much that she came back to visit us at our Christmas Fair. All children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and benefited greatly from visits that enrich the curriculum and we are thankful that these have taken place this term.



Enrich. Inspire. Empower.



Christmas Parties

During our final week, the children have come together as a Key Stage to celebrate Christmas. They have enjoyed party food and party games with their friends and teachers. Thank you to all staff for organising the party for our children to enjoy.



Carol Singing for Parishioners

Our Mini Vinnies and Liturgical leaders, accompanied by Mrs Davies, Mrs Bannister and Mrs Mullin attended the Christmas lunch of St Winefride's SVP (St Vincent De Paul Society) and brought some festive cheer by singing Christmas Carols whilst parishioners enjoyed their meal. It was lovely to see our children spread the Christmas story through song and bring so much warmth and joy to all who attended. We thank the members of the SVP for inviting us and for the support that they give to our school community. The children enjoyed it and they were a credit to the school and their roles as Mini Vinnies and Liturgical Leaders.



First Forgiveness

Well done to all of our children who made their First Forgiveness on Wednesday 7th December. It was a special service and we thank Father Francis and the catechists from St Winefride's church in preparing the children for the sacrament of First Forgiveness.

Celebration of Mass

It has been lovely to celebrate Mass in church as a whole school along with the parishioners of St Winefride's Church. The children enjoyed walking to and from church to celebrate the Feast of St Winefride in November and to celebrate the end of our Autumn term today, our last day in school. The children shared the readings of the day and sang some of their Christmas Carols to celebrate the Mass with the Parish Community of St Winefride's. Thank you to Father Francis for celebrating Mass for us all in church. It was a lovely way to come together, at the end of term, to reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas.



Staff News...



This half term, we have sadly had to say goodbye to Mrs Benjamin, one of our midday assistants who has secured a role at Neston High School. We welcome Mrs Smethurst to our staff as midday assistant. Sadly, Miss Allerton will be leaving us in the new year as she will be joining the team at Little Gems. There is a vacancy for a MDA. Please see our school website for further details.

We also welcome Mrs Young to our school staff. She will be working in the school office with Mrs McCann and Mrs Taylor.



Enrichment for all this Christmas



Our final week in school has been extremely busy and full of wonderful experiences for everyone in our school. We started our week with a visit from our friends 'The B Tales' who came into school to share with us a performance called 'Invited' which shared the message that we are all 'invited' to share in the love of the birth of Jesus at Christmas time and the love that we have for one another and show towards others is of great value. The B Tales always deliver their performances in such an enthusiastic and engaging way. The children (and staff) smiled and laughed from start to finish and it was clear that the children understood the simple message that Jesus was born for us all and loves each and everyone of us and that we all have a place to be 'invited.' The cast from the B Tales commented that they look forward to visiting St Winefride's as they are always made to feel so welcome and the children really engage in the performance. Our pupils were included in the performances and showed off their dance moves. Mrs Bannister and Sean Cunningham were invited to make a cake and it has to be shared that Mrs Bannister is definitely born to teach; not make cakes!



On Thursday, all children and staff (the whole school) visited the Civic Hall in Ellesmere Port for more fun and laughter to watch the Pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast.' The pantomime was fun and enjoyed by all. A special thank you to our PTFA for supporting the cost of the transport and to Mrs McCann for organising all of the treats. As always, all children were very well mannered and well behaved and we are extremely proud of them.

Merry Christmas



PTFA Events

We are all aware of how much the members of the PTFA do for our school community. I would like to thank all parents, family and friends of St Winefride's for all that they have organised this term to ensure that our children have the best experiences; whilst raising money which is used towards wonderful experiences (like the B Tales performance) for our children. This term, they really have achieved a great deal. We have had our movie night in November along with our Autumn raffle for our children. We have loved all of the Christmas events planned: The Christmas Wrap; the children's Chocolate Raffle; our fantastic Christmas Fair and Christmas Discos. I am sure that you will all agree that this was a lovely opportunity to come together as a school community and share in some festive fun. Thank you to all who helped at the fair and donated prizes to the raffle. I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Cunningham for their time, dedication, energy and positivity in managing these events and working closely with school and our school community to make these events happen—we appreciate all that you do! A huge thank you to Mrs McCann who helps support the PTFA in making sure that events are planned well and run smoothly.





A message from our Governors...

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was heartening to see so many of you at the Nativity plays and Carol Services this year and thank you for your continued support with these traditions of our school. It was lovely to see the great pride that the children have in themselves and how hard they work and it was lovely to see the joy and warmth that they brought to so many of our school and parish community.

A special thank you to the Staff for doing an amazing job preparing the children; their performances were superb and they are a real credit to you, our staff, governors, parish and the wider community.

Dr Mark Branch (Chair of Governors)

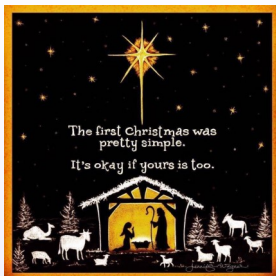


I would like to thank all of the children for their 'positive attitudes' and their continued engagement and hard work. Thank you to all staff, who work so hard to ensure that the gifts and talents of our children are nurtured and developed and to you, parents and carers for your continued support with all that we do in school.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for the lovely Christmas messages, cards and gifts. It is extremely thoughtful of you.

As we head into the Christmas break, the staff at St Winefride's would like to wish you a blessed holiday season and a joyful, Happy New Year. Enjoy time with your family and we look forward to your return in the New Year.

Merry Christmas, God Bless.



On behalf of all of the staff at St Winefride's, I would like to wish you an enjoyable and restful Christmas Break and we look forward to welcoming all of our children and families back to school on:

Wednesday 4th January 2023

Important dates for our first week back after half term:

Wednesday 4th January 2022—Children return to school. Doors open at 8.45am and school starts at 8.55am.

